

Message Text

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43

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02

AID-20 SP-03 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-03 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 SAJ-01 /192 W

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: ASSISTANT SECRETARY YEUTTER, ADMINISTRATOR HUME

DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS:

SEPTEMBER 12, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: DISCUSSIONS WERE WIDE-RANGING AND AMICABLE. IT WAS AGREED THAT A PROGRAM IS NEEDED TO INSURE ADEQUATE WORLD GRAIN SUPPLIES. IT IS HOPED THAT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE WOULD ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM. USDA AND FRG MINAG OFFICIALS AGREED THAT A WORLD FOOD PROGRAM SHOULD NOT REQUIRE AN EXTENSIVE OVERHEAD COST AND ORGANIZATION. FRG CONCERNS REGARDING POSSIBLE U.S. ACTION TO RESTRICT EXPORTS OF CORN AND SOYBEANS WERE PLACED IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE BY YEUTTER. IN CONNECTION WITH U.S. GRAIN AND SOYBEAN SITUATION, YEUTTER ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. YEUTTER CITED THE DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES CREATED BY THE EC ACTION ON BOTH BEEF AND POULTRY MEAT. YEUTTER ASSURED MINAG OFFICIALS OF U.S. ABILITY TO MEET INCREASED WORLD DEMANDS

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CIALS OF U.S. ABILITY TO MEET INCREASED WORLD DEMANDS

FOR GRAINS AND SOYBEANS BY U.S. PROGRAM OF ALL OUT PRODUCTION AND FREE MARKET ORIENTATION. END SUMMARY.

2. YEUTTER EXPLAINED PHILOSOPHY AND POSSIBLE APPROACH TO WORLD-WIDE FOOD RESERVE PROGRAM. UNDER SECRETARY ROHR AGREED WITH THE APPROACH AND CAUTIONED AGAINST CREATING A NEW INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTION. BOTH AGREED THAT A FOOD RESERVE PROGRAM SHOULD MINIMIZE OVERHEAD COSTS.

3. ROHR EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER HIGH U.S. CORN AND SOYBEAN EXPORT REGISTRATION LEVELS. YEUTTER AND HUME EXPLAINED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL VOLUME OF REGISTRATIONS WAS INSURANCE TO HEDGE AGAINST POSSIBLE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS. YEUTTER ALSO EXPLAINED THAT U.S. DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE FIGURES MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT OPTIMISTIC THIS YEAR DUE TO ANTICIPATED HEAVIER THAN NORMAL USAGE OF AVAILABLE FORAGE. YEUTTER EXPLAINED THE DOMESTIC PROBLEMS CAUSED BY ACTIONS OF EC, JAPAN, AND CANADA TO RESTRICT BEEF IMPORTS AND THE EC RECENT ACTION ON RAISING GATE PRICES AND SUPPLEMENTAL POULTRY LEVIES. THESE ACTIONS RAISED QUESTIONS BY U.S. AGRICULTURE AS TO WHY OTHER COUNTRIES DID NOT SHARE THE BURDEN OF STABILIZING WORLD AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.

4. ROHR INDICATED A STRONG INTEREST IN LONG RUN PROBLEM OF MEETING INCREASED WORLD DEMAND FOR FOOD. YEUTTER EXPLAINED THAT PRESENT U.S. AGRICULTURAL POLICY COMBINED WITH U.S. RESOURCE BASE IS EXPECTED TO PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN MEETING EXPANDING WORLD FOOD REQUIREMENTS. YEUTTER CITED THE UNIQUE SITUATIONS IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE PRESENT SITUATION AND INDICATED THAT, IN HIS JUDGMENT, THE PROBABILITY OF THESE COMBINATIONS OCCURRING AGAIN IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. YEUTTER EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBSTANTIAL SURPLUSES ARISING IN THE FUTURE AND THE NEED TO DEVELOP MARKETS FOR THESE PRODUCTS.
HILLENBRAND

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